## <u>REMARKS</u>

The Examiner has objected to Claims 5, 17, and 29 as being dependent upon a rejected base claim. The Examiner has also stated that such claims would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claim(s).

The Examiner is thanked for this allowable subject matter. Applicant respectfully asserts that each of the claims have been amended, at least substantially as suggested by the Examiner.

Thus, all of the independent claims are deemed allowable. Moreover, the remaining dependent claims are further deemed allowable, in view of their dependence on such independent claims.

In the event a telephone conversation would expedite the prosecution of this application, the Examiner may reach the undersigned at (408) 505-5100. The Commissioner is authorized to charge any additional fees or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-1351 (Order No. NAI1P495/01.018.01).

Respectfully submitted,

Registration No. 41,429

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